

Please amend the claims as follows on the next page:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A container for storing or transporting at least one contaminated item, comprising:

a plurality of polymeric, multi-layered chemical composite flexible walls that are impervious to gases and liquid and define an interior chamber that has sufficient dimensions to accommodate said contaminated item;

a gas-tight closable and openable opening for placing and removing said contaminated item in the interior chamber; and an

air management system that filters and releases pressure from the inside of said interior chamber and includes:

a pressure relief valve to allow the release of gasses ~~to~~ to prevent over pressurization in the container, and

an air-purifying system that comprises at least one of an air-purifying cartridge or canister to filter air exiting the container through the valve.

Claim 2 (Original). The container of claim 1, wherein said at least one contaminated item is a human or animal body, bodily remain, or forensic sample.

Claim 3 (Original). The container of claim 1, wherein said multi-layered chemical composite is a thermoplastic resin selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl chloride, chlorinated polyethylene, chlorinated butyl, polyethylene, high density polyethylene, low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, polypropylene, polyurethane, PTFE, combinations

thereof, or multiple-layered coextruded films which include one or more layers of ethylene-vinyl acetate, ethylene vinyl alcohol, polyvinyl alcohol, nylon, Surlyn (ionomer), polyester.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented). The container of claim 1, wherein the air-purifying canister comprises a nuclear, biological, and/or chemical filter canister.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented). The container of claim 1, wherein the air-purifying respirator cartridge or canister comprises at least one layer of chemisorptive media.

Claim 7 (Original). The container of claim 6, wherein the chemisorptive media is activated carbon.

Claim 8 (Original). The container of claim 6, wherein the chemisorptive media is nuclear, biological, and chemical absorbent.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Previously Presented). The container of claim 1, wherein the container maintains about 4-inch positive air pressure with up to about a 20 percent drop in pressure after four minutes in a standard inflation test .

Claim 11 (Original). The container of claim 1, wherein said gas-tight closable and openable opening is a zipper.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented). The container of claim 11, wherein the zipper comprises PVC, PE, Hytrel, PP, butyl, neoprene.

Claim 13 (Original). The container of claim 1, wherein the multi-layered chemical composite is resistant to at least one of Sarin, Mustard, Soman, nerve agent, Lewisite, tear gas.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented). The container of claim 1, wherein the multi-layered chemical composite is resistant to toxic industrial chemicals.

Claim 15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Original). The container of claim 1, wherein said multi-layered chemical composite is layered with a thermoplastic polyolefin elastomer layer.

Claim 17 (Original). The container of claim 11, further comprising a thermoplastic interface material that joins the zipper with the multi-layered chemical composite.

Claim 18 (Original). The container of claim 1, wherein said walls form an extended tubular body.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented). The container of claim 1, wherein said walls are joined by hermetic seams.

Claim 20 (Original). The container of claim 19, wherein said seams are sealed with a chemically resistant tape.

Claim 21 (Original). The container of claim 19, wherein said seams are sealed with heat, radio frequency welding, or impulse welding.

Claim 22 (Original). The container of claim 1, further comprising a polymeric abrasion-resistant fabric surface.

Claim 23 (Original). The container of claim 22, wherein the polymeric abrasion-resistant fabric comprises polyvinyl chloride.

Claim 24 (Original). The container of claim 1, wherein the interior chamber comprises a super adsorbent polymer.

Claim 25 (Original). The container of claim 24, wherein the interior chamber comprises adsorbent pads adhered to the walls that define said chamber.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended). A gas-tight pouch for transporting contaminated items, comprising:

a polymeric multi-layered chemical composite barrier fabric stitched to form seams which define an enclosed pouch;

an opening and closing device to allow access to the pouch for inserting and removing contaminated items.; and

an opening to allow passage of air in response to changing pressure inside or outside the pouch, the opening containing an air-purifying cartridge or canister that filters the air as it passes to or from ~~air-release valve that filters and releases pressurized air from within the~~ pouch.

Claim 27 (Original). The pouch of claim 26, wherein the polymeric multi-layered chemical composite barrier fabric composite is a thermoplastic resin selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl chloride, chlorinated polyethylene, chlorinated butyl, polyethylene, high density polyethylene, low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, polypropylene, polyurethane, PTFE, combinations thereof, or multiple-layered coextruded films which include one or more layers of ethylene-vinyl acetate, ethylene vinyl alcohol, polyvinyl alcohol, nylon, Surlyn, polyester.

Claim 28 (Original). The pouch of claim 26, wherein the air release valve is an uni-directional pressure relief valve that comprises chemisorptive media.

Claim 29 (Original). The pouch of claim 26, wherein the opening and closing device is an air-tight zipper.

Claim 30 (Original). The pouch of claim 26, wherein said polymeric multi-layered chemical composite barrier fabric composite comprises a thermoplastic polyolefin elastomer layer.

Claim 31 (Original). The pouch of claim 26, wherein the seams are hermetically sealed with a chemically resistant tape.

Claim 32 (Original). The pouch of claim 26, comprising a polymeric abrasion-resistant polyvinyl chloride surface.

Claims 33-41 (Canceled).

Claim 42 (Previously Presented). A container for storing or transporting at least one contaminated item, comprising:

a polymeric composite flexible wall that is impervious to gases and liquid and define an interior chamber that has sufficient dimensions to accommodate said contaminated item;

a gas-tight closable and openable opening for placing and removing said contaminated item in the interior chamber; and an

air management system that filters and releases pressure from the inside of said interior chamber and includes:

a pressure relief valve to allow the release of gasses to prevent over pressurization in the container, and

an air-purifying system that comprises at least one of an air-purifying cartridge or canister to filter air exiting the container through the valve.